Chapter 451: Redemption and Mercy

A New Dimension of Justice

Sung Jin-Woo, seated on the radiant Throne of Dominion within the Godverse, contemplated the balance of justice and mercy in the vast multiverse under his rule. He had already established Elysium as a paradise for the righteous and the Netherworld as a prison for the wicked. However, he knew that not all sins were equal, and not every soul was irredeemable.

For those who had walked a path of darkness yet whose sins were not beyond forgiveness, there had to be a path toward redemption. Thus, Sung Jin-Woo decreed a new law:

"Let those whose sins are not too heavy endure their due punishment in the Netherworld. When their penance is complete, they shall ascend to Elysium, but they shall dwell at its lowest levels."

This decree would forever reshape the afterlife, introducing a system that balanced justice with compassion.

Torture with Purpose

In the cold, desolate expanse of the Netherworld, dark archangel Amenadiel stood before his legion of dark angels. The shadows flickered ominously as his commanding voice echoed through the void:

"Our duty is to enact justice, but not vengeance. Those whose sins do not warrant eternal torment shall be cleansed through suffering. When their penance is complete, they will ascend to the lowest levels of Elysium."

The dark angels, relentless yet just, carried out their duties with precision. Souls condemned to the Netherworld faced tailored punishments reflective of their sins—painful yet purposeful, designed to purge their darkness and bring about understanding and remorse.

As the tortured souls endured their penance, many found redemption through suffering, their hearts purified by regret and the realization of their wrongdoings.

The Path to Elysium

When a soul’s punishment was deemed complete, they were summoned before Amenadiel himself. The dark archangel, his black wings gleaming under the pale light of the Netherworld, would speak the words of release:

"Your penance is fulfilled. You are cleansed of your sins. Rise now and ascend to Elysium."

A pillar of golden light would descend from the heavens, enveloping the redeemed soul. Freed from the shadows, they would ascend through the multiverse, their forms transformed by the divine light of Elysium.

The Bottom of Elysium

Upon entering Elysium, these redeemed souls found themselves in its lowest levels. Even here, however, the conditions were far more wondrous than anything they had known in the mundane realm.

Golden Fields and Crystal Rivers: The fields glimmered with soft golden hues, and the rivers sparkled with crystal-clear water, offering eternal refreshment.

Eternal Homes: Though modest compared to the grand estates of the higher levels, each soul was provided with a beautiful, comfortable home.

Boundless Peace: No sorrow, pain, or conflict marred their existence. The air was filled with tranquility and harmony.

These souls, now free from torment, lived in eternal peace, grateful for their second chance.

A Grateful Existence

Many of the redeemed souls expressed profound gratitude for the mercy they had received. They marveled at the beauty of Elysium, even from its lowest levels, knowing that this paradise far surpassed anything they had experienced in the mundane realm.

"Even at the bottom of Elysium," one soul said, "we are surrounded by beauty and peace beyond imagination. This is more than we could have ever hoped for."

Others devoted themselves to acts of service, helping new arrivals and contributing to the harmony of Elysium as a testament to their gratitude and redemption.

Sung Jin-Woo's Wisdom

From his throne, Sung Jin-Woo observed the transformation of the redeemed souls. His golden eyes shone with satisfaction as he saw justice tempered with mercy bring balance to the afterlife.

"The purpose of justice is not only to punish but also to restore," he declared to the multiverse. "Let this be a lesson to all—that redemption is possible, and mercy is a gift given to those willing to change."

His decree resonated across the realms, inspiring countless beings to seek paths of righteousness and redemption.

A New Era of Balance

With the creation of this system, the multiverse flourished under a newfound harmony. Elysium became not just a paradise for the righteous but also a sanctuary for the redeemed. The Netherworld remained a place of justice, yet it now stood as a gateway for transformation rather than an abyss of eternal despair.

Sung Jin-Woo's divine wisdom had once again shaped the destiny of countless beings, ensuring that the multiverse continued to thrive in balance, justice, and boundless mercy.